



T H E

IMPRUDENT INTIMACY.

THE two Mr. Pennings, of Coventry, were esteemed and beloved by every body who knew their valuable and amiable qualities: they were almost revered on account of their fraternal behaviour to each other, by which they sufficiently proved the sincerity of their mutual affection.

The christian names of these brothers were Francis and John; the former, the elder of them, was an attorney; the latter, a merchant. Their

Their integrity was equal; but while John derived considerably advantages in his commercial transactions from his, Francis, unluckily found out that the ideas which he entertained concerning moral rectitude, would rather tend to keep him down in the world, than enable him to make his way in it. He was the more sensible of the insufficiency of integrity alone to procure the favours of fortune, as a man who lived not far from him, of the same profession, but with more fashionable notions, got three times more money than he did. He was not, however, induced by the success which Mr. Fox met with, to tread in his footsteps, though he was somewhat embarrassed by a growing family.

Mr. John Perrin had also a growing family; but as he was in a flourishing state, he felt not those domestic uneasinesses which disturbed his worthy brother, as often as he reflected upon the situation of his affairs.

John, seeing his brother uncommonly dejected one day, begged to be acquainted with the cause of his disquiet.

He returned an evasive answer, but on being very affectionately pressed, unbosomed himself. "Thus situated, my dear Brother, continued he, have I not reason to be dejected?"

"You shall not remain so, replied John, take this purse; when it is empty it shall be

K

reple